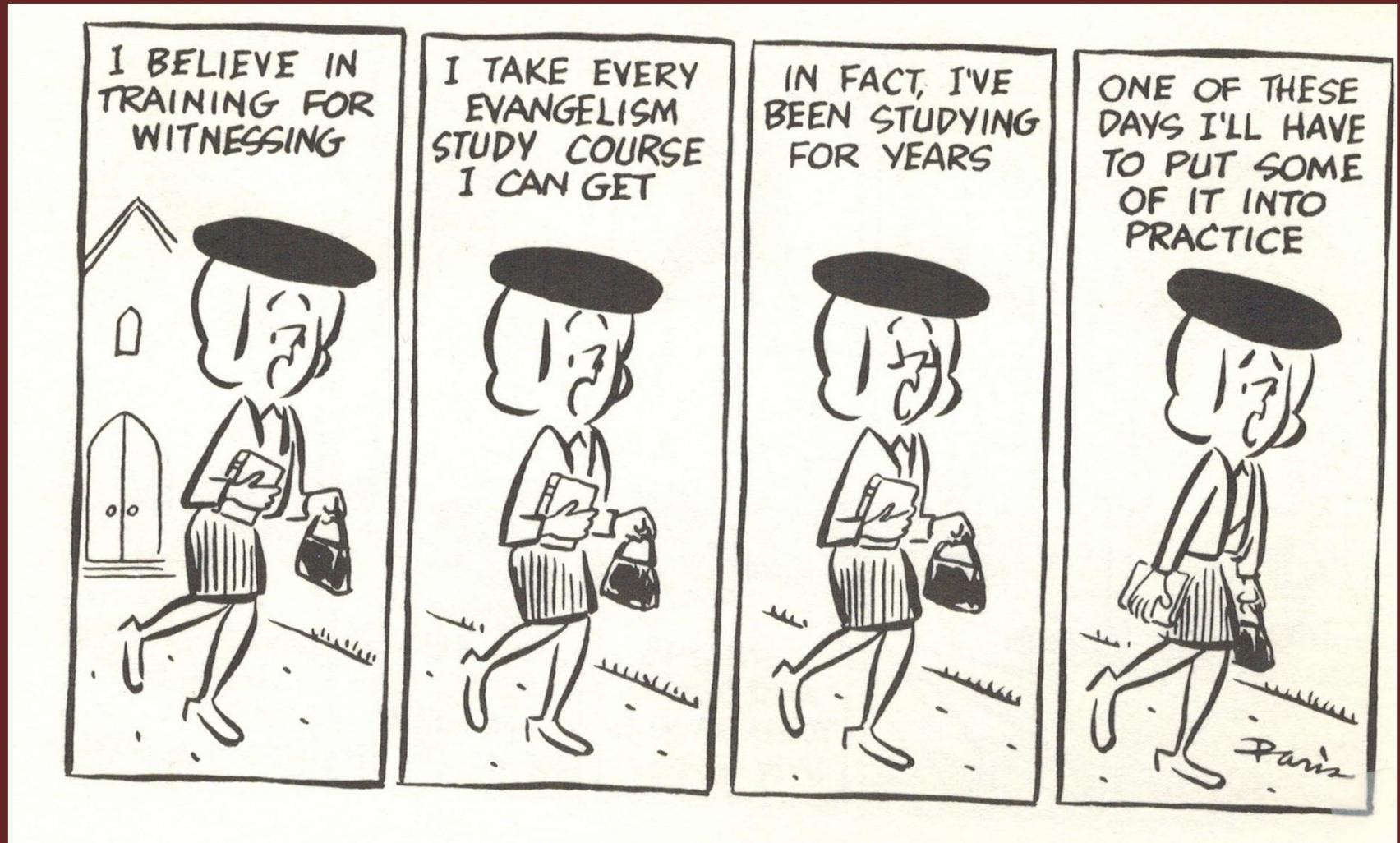




Crash Course Evangelism III

Evangelism Practices

Evangelism: Practical Ideas and Practice



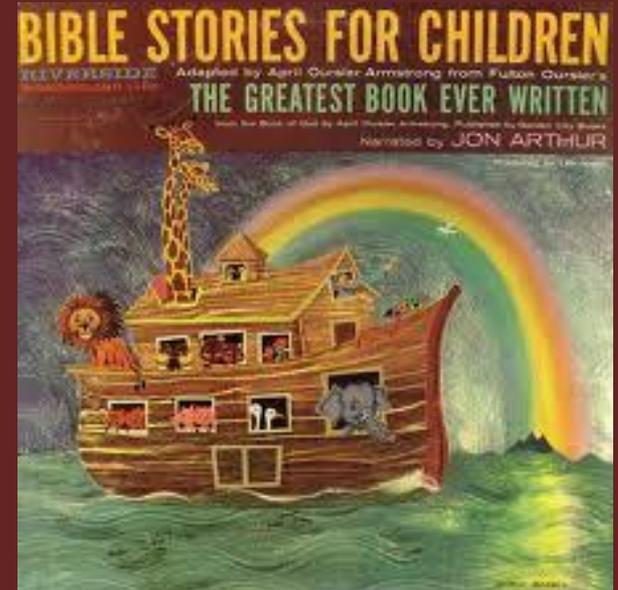
Evangelism: Telling the Story

- The question we must ask ourselves is can we tell stories?



Evangelism: It's giving the good news

- Throughout the Bible, we see stories as a way to share the good news.
- Story allows people of faith to share their stories as a part of God's story
- Jesus uses not only God's story with Israel, but his own stories to communicate the good news of who he is and what he is doing to save us



Holy Story telling

- Evangelism is sharing the good news, the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is the most holy story for us as Christians, the story of God's entry into our world. It is the story of how God is born, lives among us, teaches and heals us and dies to save us and forgive us.

Holy Story Telling

- Our own stories of faith are stories about how the good news of God's story became part of my own story. Evangelism happens when we share with others allowing God's story to enter their story.

Helpful tools

- Courage
- Confidence
- Humor
- Faith

You are not the first

“Jesus said to them, peace be with you, as the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”

-John 20:21

You are not alone

- ⁷ Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?
⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
⁹ If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.
¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,"
¹² even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.
¹³ For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

(Psalm 139:7-14 NRS)

Spiritual Conversations take a little practice

- Our skills as story tellers takes practice. With practice, we gain confidence and even joy from tasks that once seemed frightening.
- It's like learning to drive. So many things to keep in mind at first it seems impossible. But eventually these things become a habit.

Faith Practices

- Pray for help and insight
 - “If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given to you.” James 1:5

Immerse yourself in God's Story

- Take time regularly to read, consider, digest, ponder, meditate, and memorize the Bible. There we find God's story, the stories that lead up to the good news of Jesus Christ as well as the ones that originate from us.

Law and Gospel

As Lutherans we believe that God's story is comprised of two words, the law and the gospel. The gospel is the promise of life, forgiveness of sins and salvation in Jesus Christ. The law is the word of command, where God requires us to act and refrain from acting in certain ways.

The Law Gospel Distinction

- Speaking a word of law helps to defend and protect the vulnerable and speak out against the self destructive patterns of sin.
- Speaking a word of gospel (the free and total forgiveness by faith in Christ) is a message of comfort that no one else has to offer.

Take time to listen and to speak

- Ecclesiastes 3 “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
A time to keep silence, a time to speak.”

Evangelism will require us to listen and to speak, telling our stories as well as God’s word of Law and Gospel.

Great Commission

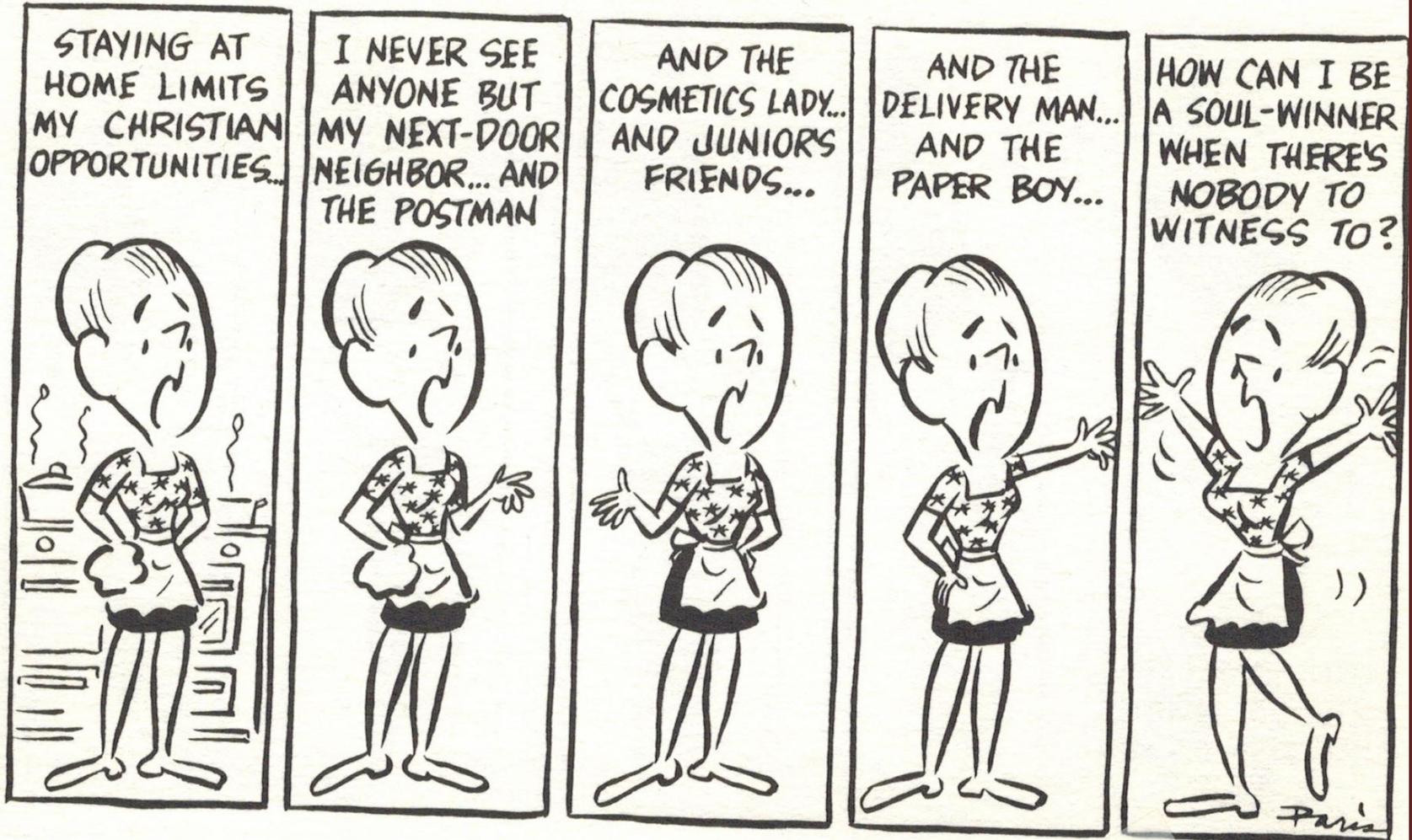
And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20

Evangelism and Vocation

- Evangelism is the work of the whole church, as the body of Christ and members of it.
- The vocations we have (our occupations, relationships and roles) make demands on our time and our energy.

“Going...In place.”



Going...In place

- Our lives intersect with God's story and with the story of those around us. Evangelism, telling our story together with God's story is not one more thing to do in a full life, but a chance to share who we are and who God is with others.
- Evangelism (giving the good news) is portable

Where faith happens

- Font
- Altar
- Sunday School
- Bible Study
- Work
- School
- Couch
- Dinner Table